

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAIGON 14087 041453Z

41

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EUR-25 AID-20 IO-13 DPW-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-19 AF-10

RSR-01 /183 W

----- 009086

R 041400Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5558

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

UNCLAS SAIGON 14087

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, VS

SUB: PRG WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE

WE BELIEVE FOLLOWING PRESS STORY REPRESENTS GOOD ACCOUNT 4
WEEKLY PRG PRESS BRIEFING:

BEGIN PRESS STORY

SAIGON, AUG. 4 (UPI) -- IRAN HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY PROPOSED
AS CANADA'S REPLACEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL
AND SUPERVISION (ICCS) BUT HAS NOT YET BEEN ACCEPTED. THE VIET
CONG SAID TODAY.

SR. COL. VO DONG GIANG, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE PROVISIONAL
REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT (PRG) DELEGATION TO THE TWO PARTY JOINT
MILITARY COMMISSION (JMC) MADE THE DISCLOSURE AT THE WEEKLY
VIET CONG NEWS CONFERENCE.

"THE FIRST CONDITION IS WHETHER IRAN WILL ACCEPT THE ACT OF
THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM SIGNED BY 11 (SIC)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SAIGON 14087 041453Z

GOVERNMENTS," GIANG SAID. (HE WAS REFERRING TO THE FEB. 15 ACCORD

IN PARIS GUARANTEEING THE JAN. 27 CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT. THE ACCORD WAS SIGNED BY NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM, THE U.S., THE PRG, CANADA, HUNGARY, INDONESIA, POLAND, THE SOVIET UNION, CHINA, FRANCE, AND BRITAIN.)

GIANG SAID IRAN HAS BEEN ASKED WHETHER IT WILL ACCEPT THE TERMS OF THE FEBRUARY PARIS ACCORD BUT HAS NOT YET REPLIED.

GIANG DID NOT SAY WHETHER THE PRG WOULD ATTACH OTHER CONDITIONS TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF IRAN AS CANADA'S SUCCESSOR.

"RECENTLY, WE ARE INFORMED THAT THE OTHER SIDE OFFICIALLY INTRODUCED IRAN," GIANG SAID. "THIS INTRODUCTION CAME LATE, MAKING ITS APPEARANCE PERHAPS ON JULY 30 AND WE HAVE TO CONSIDER THE PROBLEM."

GIANG INDICATED THAT IF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM SENDS TROOPS INTO CAMBODIA, THE VIET CONG WILL NOT INTERVENE IN CAMBODIA BUT MAY TAKE ACTION IN SOUTH VIETNAM TO HAMPER THE RVN INTERVENTION. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT HE FELT RVN INTERVENTION IN CAMBODIA WOULD AID THE CAUSE OF THE VIET CONG IN VIETNAM.

"THE STRUGGLE IN CAMBODIA IS BEING FOUGHT BY CAMBODIANS. WE STRUGGLE IN OUR OWN COUNTRY. WE HAVE NO OTHER INTENTION THAN TO CARRY OUT OUR COMMITMENT IN CONVENTION -- THAT IS TO UNITE WITH THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND PEACE," GIANG SAID. "WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF ALLOWING TERRITORY CONTROLLED BY THE PRG TO BE USED BY THE SAIGON SIDE TO LAUNCH MILITARY ADVENTURES IN CAMBODIA." (THE PRG CONTROLS MUCH OF THE TERRITORY ALONG SOUTH VIETNAM'S BORDER WITH CAMBODIA. HOWEVER THE RVN CONTROLS THE BORDER AT THE POINT HIGHWAY 1 ENTERS THE PARROT'S BEAK AND VARIOUS OTHER SEGMENTS OF THE BORDER. IT ALSO HAS ADEQUATE AIRLIFT CAPABILITY TO FLY ITS TROOPS INTO CAMBODIA.)

GIANG SAID THE "FORM OF THE STRUGGLE (IN VIETNAM) AT THE PRESENT TIME IS POLITICAL STRUGGLE AND THE SAIGON ADMINISTRATION WILL WEAKEN ITSELF IF IT LAUNCHES A MILITARY ADVENTURE IN CAMBODIA AND WE WILL HAVE VERY FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE.

"FOR INSTANCE, WHEN THE SAIGON SIDE SENDS TROOPS INTO CAMBODIA, ITS LAND GRABBING IN SOUTH VIETNAM WILL DECREASE AND ITS POLICE OPERATIONS TO TERRORIZE THE PEOPLE WILL BE REDUCED.

"I THINK THE SAIGON ADMINISTRATION WILL KNOW THE SITUATION IT WILL BE CAUGHT BETWEEN IF IT LAUNCHES MILITARY ADVENTURES IN CAMBODIA," HE SAID. HE SAID SUCH INTERVENTION WOULD "PROLONG UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SAIGON 14087 041453Z

CONFLICT AND ENCOUNTER MANY POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES."

HOWEVER, GIANG SAID THE VIET CONG "CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE RVN WILL SEND ITS TROOPS INTO CAMBODIA."

IN AN OPENING STATEMENT, GIANG SAID DESPITE THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE JMC, HE SAW "FINE PROSPECTS FOR PEACE."

HE SAID UNDER QUESTIONING THAT HE BASED HIS OPTIMISM ON THE RVN'S ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES OF

INDOCHINA, AND GROWING CONTACT BETWEEN CIVILIANS AND SOLDIERS ON THE OPPOSING SIDES. GIANG SAID THAT WHILE PEACE AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION HAVE NOT YET BEEN ACHIEVED, "TIME IS ON THE SIDE OF THOSE WHO SEEK TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS.

"ECONOMICALLY SPEAKING, AN ECONOMY WHICH DOES NOT RELY CHIEFLY ON THE PEOPLE BUT ON FOREIGN AID CANNOT SURVIVE THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT AND END OF THE CONFLICT. SUCH A POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IS CAUSING THE SAIGON SIDE TO RECONSIDER THEIR ATTITUDE OF PROLONGING THE WAR," GIANG SAID.

"THE SITUATION IN OTHER INDOCHINA COUNTRIES ALSO IS DEVELOPING. TIME IS WORKING FOR THE SIDE OF THE PEOPLE WHO DESIRE PEACE, INDEPENDENCE, AND DEMOCRACY," HE SAID. "THE FALL OF THE LON NOL REGIME IN CAMBODIA IS NOT HARMFUL TO THE SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM. IT IS BENEFICIAL TO THE STRUGGLE FOR REAL PEACE AND REAL INDEPENDENCE IN SOUTH VIETNAM."

GIANG SAID DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF BOTH THE RVN AND THE PRG BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SENEGAL WAS NOT TACIT ACCEPTANCE BY THE PRG OF A PERMANENT DIVISION BETWEEN THE PRG AND RVN IN SOUTH VIETNAM "BECAUSE THE ACTUAL SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM IS TWO ADMINISTRATIONS, TWO ARMIES AND TWO AREAS OF CONTROL.

"THE RECOGNITION OF THE TWO PARTIES DOES NOT IN ANY WAY WITH THE RECOGNITION IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT THAT VIETNAM IS AN INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGN COUNTRY," HE SAID. (THE RVN HAS THREATEND TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH SENEGAL BECAUSE OF ITS RECOGNITION OF THE VIET CONG.)

END PRESS STORY

MARTIN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON14087
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730857/aaaabpub.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRG WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE WE BELIEVE FOLLOWING PRESS STORY REPRESENTS GOOD ACCOUNT 4
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, VS, PRG, PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005